

# Potato stocks



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## POTATO STOCKS DOWN 5 PERCENT

Stocks of potatoes for all uses held in storage by growers, local dealers and processors in the fall production areas totaled 99.1 million cwt. on March 1, 1976, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This was 4.9 million cwt. (5 percent) less than the previous record of 104.1 million on hand March 1, 1975, but 22 percent above the March 1 stocks of 1974.

For the eight eastern States on March 1, 1976, stocks totaled 14.9 million cwt., down 29 percent from the 21.1 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. Maine stocks at 12.0 million cwt. compare with 17.1 million on hand a year earlier.

In the eight central States, stocks totaled 13.7 million cwt., 23 percent less than the 18.0 million cwt. on hand for the comparable date a year earlier. Combined stocks in North Dakota and Minnesota totaled 9.1 million cwt., down 3.6 million or 28 percent from a year ago.

Stocks in the eight western States on March 1, 1976, totaled 70.5 million cwt., 8 percent or 5.5 million cwt. above the 65.0 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. Most of the increased stocks were in Oregon (up 2.4 million) and Washington (up 2.2 million).

Disappearance from the 1975 fall crop to March 1, 1976, totaled 168.7 million cwt. (excluding Nevada), down 7 percent from the 181.4 million cwt. moved during the comparable period a year earlier.

The accumulated quantity of potatoes processed in the seven major States to March 1, 1976 from the 1975 crop totaled 59.5 million cwt., a decline of 13 percent from the 68.2 million cwt. processed during the comparable period a year earlier.

**NOTE:** Stocks are defined as the quantity remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes generally account for about 90 percent of the total fall production. The remaining 10 percent is lost primarily through shrinkage and waste.

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION, DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, AND APRIL 1 TOTAL STOCKS, CROPS OF 1965-75 IN THE FALL STATES

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS				
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR			
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1
1,000 CWT						
1965	:	216,749	147,780	124,170	98,670	74,905
1966	:	228,442	153,550	128,050	103,630	79,632
1967	:	231,656	161,500	139,170	112,640	86,405
1968	:	221,906	152,810	130,350	104,995	81,940
1969	:	239,460	162,800	138,140	111,510	87,620
1970	:	253,525	175,145	150,030	122,830	96,780
1971 <u>1/</u>	:	266,686	176,340	151,400	124,370	98,480
1972	:	248,841	158,440	134,320	107,165	83,305 <u>2/</u> 58,185
1973	:	253,866	157,802	133,585	106,600	81,150      55,865
1974 <u>3/</u>	:	288,674	187,715	162,900	133,245	104,051      75,865
1975	:	271,942	180,930	152,920	125,360	99,105

1/ BEGINNING WITH 1971 LATE SUMMER PRODUCTION FOR NEW YORK-LONG ISLAND, WISCONSIN AND WASHINGTON HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FALL.

2/ APRIL 1 STOCKS EFFECTIVE WITH 1972 CROP YEAR.

3/ REVISED AUGUST 1975 POT 6(75).

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING, 1/ SEVEN STATES, 1974 AND 1975 CROPS 2/

STATE	STORAGE SEASON	TO DEC 1	TO JAN 1	TO FEB 1	TO MAR 1	TO APR 1	ENTIRE SEASON	
							(000) CWT	
IDAHO AND MALHEUR CO, OREG								
	:	1974-75	19,742	23,803	28,063	32,820	38,344	58,168
	:	1975-76	15,030	19,890	24,965	30,265		
MAINE								
	:	1974-75	2,830	3,757	5,126	6,109	7,116	9,304
	:	1975-76	1,735	2,350	2,945	3,635		
WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG								
	:	1974-75	15,269	16,815	19,181	21,712	24,472	32,295
	:	1975-76	11,796	14,780	18,060	21,190		
OTHER STATES <u>3/</u>								
	:	1974-75	3,833	4,990	6,355	7,539	8,687	11,322
	:	1975-76	2,504	3,100	3,710	4,365		
TOTAL								
	:	1974-75	41,674	49,365	58,725	68,180	78,619	111,089
	:	1975-76	31,065	40,120	49,680	59,455		

1/ TOTAL QUANTITY RECEIVED AND USED FOR PROCESSING REGARDLESS OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE POTATOES WERE PRODUCED. DOES NOT INCLUDE QUANTITIES USED FOR POTATO CHIPS IN MAINE OR MICHIGAN.

2/ 1974-75 REVISED. 3/ MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, AND NORTH DAKOTA.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL  
POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS,  
AND LOCAL DEALERS ON MARCH 1, 1975  
AND MARCH 1, 1976

STATE	CROP OF 1974			CROP OF 1975		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS		PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS	
		MAR 1 1975	MAR 1 1976		MAR 1 1976	MAR 1 1976
1,000 CWT						
CALIF	6,417	1,800		6,164		1,950
COLO	8,840	3,400		8,613		2,900
CONN	598	1/		552		1/
IDAHO	81,195	40,000		75,090		41,000
IND	1,166	1/		1,500		95
MAINE	36,400	17,100		26,840		12,000
MASS	800	1/		718		1/
MICH	8,330	1,800		6,670		1,500
MINN	15,300	5,300		9,690		3,700
MONT	1,750	1,400		1,748		1,410
NEBR	1,152	375		1,127		480
N H	144	1/		92		1/
N Y - L I	6,750	600		6,058		700
- UPSTATE	6,968	1,600		5,760		990
N DAK	22,950	7,400		17,600		5,400
OHIO	2,090	250		1,914		170
OREG	17,482	4,920		22,779		7,300
PA	7,360	1,568		6,815		1,035
R I	1,034	1/		987		1/
S DAK	371	140		598		100
UTAH	1,481	240		1,508		420
VT	220	1/		212		1/
WASH	41,160	12,800		48,300		15,000
WIS	14,000	2,600		14,850		2,300
WYO	1,528	430		1,632		485
OTH STS		328				170
24 STATE TOTAL	285,486	104,051		267,817		99,105
NEV	3,188	2/		4,125		2/
TOTAL 25 FALL STATES	288,674	104,051		271,942		99,105

1/ STOCKS INCLUDED IN "OTHER STATES".

2/ NOT INCLUDED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE.



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POTATO STOCKS QUALITY SURVEY  
Minnesota and North Dakota (Red River Valley)

Quality information contained in this report is based on a potato stocks quality survey conducted by the Statistical Reporting Service in the Red River Valley. There were 211 samples selected on a random basis and placed in storage at the time of harvest. Reports will continue to be issued through April for the 1975-76 storage season indicating accumulated average grade and weight loss for potato samples removed from storage.

Samples recovered before March 1, 1976 for all varieties continue to average a greater proportion of U.S. No. 1 potatoes than a year ago. The percent of Red, White and Russet varieties grading U.S. No. 1 (including B's) was 85, 76, and 67 percent respectively and compares with 74, 73, and 44 percent for the same period a year ago. U.S. No. 1 grade for Whites showed the largest decline in grade compared with last month. This is partially due to a few storage bins being dumped and classified as 100 percent culs. The decline in U.S. No. 1 grade for Reds and Russets since time of harvest is indicated at 6 and 16 percent respectively and 9 percent for White varieties. This compared with declines of 17 percent for Reds, 0 for whites, and 25 percent for Russets during the same period a year earlier.

The percent graded as culs remains less than a year ago for all varieties. The percent culs for March 1, 1976 and March 1, 1975 are as follows: Reds 7, 12; Whites 15, 17; and Russets 19, 49. Total weight loss while in storage was slightly higher than a year ago for Reds, but less for Whites and Russets.

Averages for all potatoes shipped during the season (final) are shown for the 1974 crop. Thus, comparisons relating to change in grade from March 1 to final can be made for the 1974 crop. In interpreting current survey indications, consideration should be given to further changes that may occur in average grade and weight loss from March 1 to the end of season.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY, RED RIVER VALLEY, 1975-76  
AVERAGE GRADE OF POTATOES SHIPPED: 1/

VARIETAL:	NO. 1 INCLUDING B'S :	NO. 2 :	CULLS :	NO. 1 B'S :	WEIGHT
TYPE :	AT : AFTER	AT : AFTER	AT : AFTER	AT : AFTER	LOSS
	: HARVEST : STORAGE	: HARVEST : STORAGE	: HARVEST : STORAGE	: HARVEST : STORAGE	2/ : STORAGE
P E R C E N T					
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE MARCH 1, 1976					
RED	91	85	5	8	4
WHITE	85	76	7	9	8
RUSSET	83	67	12	14	5
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE MARCH 1, 1975					
RED	91	74	5	14	4
WHITE	73	73	14	10	13
RUSSET	69	44	18	7	13
ALL SAMPLES 1974-75 STORAGE SEASON-FINAL					
RED	88	69	7	12	5
WHITE	76	70	12	10	12
RUSSET	70	61	18	11	12

1/ MATCHED SAMPLES, QUALITY AT HARVEST COMPARED WITH QUALITY AFTER STORAGE.

2/ NO. 1 B'S ARE POTATOES THAT MEET THE U. S. NO 1 GRADE BUT DID NOT MEET MINIMUM SIZE STANDARDS FOR THE AREA; RED AND WHITE VARIETIES 1 1/2 - 2 1/4 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND RUSSET VARIETIES UNDER 2 INCHES IN DIAMETER OR WEIGHT LESS THAN 4 OUNCES.

3/ NOT AVAILABLE.